

[Report of the Medical Officer of Health for West Ham County Borough 1918].

Contributors

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County Borough of West Ham.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1918.

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN, AND COUNCILLORS,

I beg to submit my annual report on the work of the Public Health Department during the year 1918, and on the health conditions of the Borough. This will again, owing to the exigencies of the situation, chiefly consist of statistical results, and these must be considered with considerable reservations, having regard to the altered and constantly changing circumstances of the inhabitants.

Population.—The census population in 1911 was 289,030, and the Registrar-General estimated the population of the Borough in the middle of 1918, for the purposes of the Birth rate and Marriage rate, at 294,523, and for the purpose of Death rate at 262,858, no deaths among Soldiers being included in the present report. The excess of births over deaths since census year is shown in the following list:—

Year.		Births.	Deaths.	Excess Births over Deaths.
1912	...	8,642	4,146	4,496
1913	..	9,125	4,312	4,813
1914	...	8,848	4,425	4,423
1915	...	8,334	4,744	3,590
1916	...	8,377	4,233	4,144
1917	...	6,701	4,203	2,498
1918	...	6,021	5,492	529

If the total of the above excess, namely 24,493, be added to the census population the present total should amount to 313,523, but it is clear from the information at the disposal of the Registrar-General, and also from a recent investigation into the number of children of school age in the Borough carried out for the Education Committee by the Superintendent of Visitors, that the foregoing figure is much too large. The estimated population by the Registrar-General for the middle of last year since the last census is as follows, and the various rates have been calculated on his estimate :—

1911—289,646	1916—For deaths ... 287,969
1912—291,900	„ births ... 313,315
1913—294,223	1917—For deaths ... 271,934
1914—293,570	„ births ... 303,130
1915—294,396	1918—For deaths ... 262,858
	„ births ... 294,523

Births.—The total births registered in the Borough during the year numbered 6,090 (3,141 males and 2,949 females). From these 81 males and 80 females have to be deducted, being infants of mothers who came from other districts for their confinement. Similarly 31 males and 42 females have to be added, being infants of West Ham mothers who were confined outside the Borough. The net births attributable to West Ham were 3,097 males and 2,924 females, or a total of 6,021, giving an annual birth-rate of 20·44.

Illegitimate Births.—292 illegitimate children were registered as born in West Ham, but of these 63 (23 males and 40 females) must be deducted, 26 (15 males and 11 females) added for reasons given above, making a total net West Ham births numbering 255 (139 males and 116 females), or 4·2 per cent. of the total births.

The births were distributed among the various Wards of the Borough as under :—

Ward.	Males.	Females.	Total.
New Town	163	145	308
Forest Gate	131	164	295
High Street	215	176	391
Broadway	174	118	292
Park	123	111	234
Upton	140	102	242
West Ham	316	303	619
Plaistow	348	332	680
Hudsons	323	340	663
Canning Town	318	343	661
Tidal Basin	443	427	870
Custom House and Silvertown	403	463	866
	<hr/> 3,097	<hr/> 3,024	<hr/> 6,121

Deaths.—The number of civilian deaths registered in the Borough during the year numbered 5,436, including the following deaths in public institutions within the district :—

	Under 1 year.	One year and upward.
Plaistow Hospital	2	76
Queen Mary's Hospital for the East End	37	122
St. Mary's Hospital for Women and Children	7	44
Albert Dock Hospital	—	70
Plaistow Maternity Charity	19	7
Women's Settlement Hospital	1	8
Forest Gate Sick Home	5	394
Other places	3	43
Non-residents registered in the Borough	18	319

The 5,436 deaths do not include the undermentioned deaths in public institutions and elsewhere outside the district :—

	Under 1 year.	One year and upward.
Workhouse and Infirmary ...	35	650
West Ham Mental Hospital ...	1	152
Dagenham Sanatorium ...	—	19
Residents dying in London Institutions and elsewhere ...	36	300

After suitable adjustments rendered necessary by the foregoing tables have been made, the net deaths of the Borough numbered 5,492 (2,788 males and 2,704 females), being 1,289 more than the previous year and 1,007 more than the average of the previous five years.

The annual civilian death rate for the year was 20·89 per 1,000 of the population.

Distributed to the various Wards of the Borough the respective deaths are set out below, together with the infant mortality figure :—

Ward.	Deaths in 1918.		Total.	Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 births.
	Under 1 year.	One year and upward.		
New Town ...	21	287	308	68
Forest Gate...	17	284	301	57
High Street...	51	331	382	130
Broadway ...	35	242	277	119
Park... ..	20	213	233	85
Upton	20	268	288	82
West Ham ...	58	478	536	93
Plaistow ...	69	517	586	101
Hudsons ...	81	510	591	122
Canning Town ...	87	474	561	131
Tidal Basin...	142	615	757	163
Custom House and Silvertown ...	99	573	672	129
Whole Borough ...	700	4,792	5,492	116

Causes of Death at different periods of Life.

Causes of Death.	At all ages	0-1 year	1-2	2-5	5-15	15-25	25-45	45-65	65 upwards
Enteric Fever ...	7	—	—	—	2	3	2	—	—
Measles ...	174	18	59	85	12	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ...	3	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough...	105	40	30	29	5	1	—	—	—
Diphtheria ...	86	4	12	37	30	3	—	—	—
Influenza ...	1056	23	48	98	132	143	372	170	70
Erysipelas ...	6	1	—	—	—	1	2	1	1
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	438	1	3	4	29	95	193	108	5
Tuberculous Meningitis	57	16	10	15	13	1	2	—	—
Other Tuberculous diseases ...	52	4	3	8	13	11	8	4	1
Cancer ...	266	1	—	—	3	2	24	155	81
Rheumatic Fever...	16	—	—	2	6	3	2	3	—
Meningitis ...	22	6	4	11	1	—	—	—	—
Organic Heart Disease...	337	—	—	1	15	35	58	104	124
Bronchitis ...	476	59	23	18	5	6	20	117	228
Pneumonia ...	812	121	122	120	63	66	149	106	65
Other Respiratory Disease...	38	7	2	—	3	1	6	15	4
Diarrhoea ...	158	114	19	10	1	—	4	7	3
Appendicitis ...	22	—	1	2	8	1	6	3	1
Cirrhosis of Liver..	8	—	—	—	1	—	—	4	3
Alcoholism ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
Nephritis and Brights Disease	95	1	—	2	10	3	22	32	25
Puerperal Fever...	3	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—
Diseases and Accidents of Pregnancy ...	17	—	—	—	—	2	15	—	—
Congenital Debility, &c. ...	225	218	2	3	1	1	—	—	—
Violence ...	139	16	8	13	19	7	20	31	25
Suicide ...	23	—	—	—	—	—	11	11	1
Other Defined Diseases ...	848	50	10	13	18	29	103	162	463
Causes Ill-defined...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Totals ...	5,492	700	357	471	392	414	1023	1034	1101

Causes of Death distributed to

	New Town	Forest Gate	High Street
Enteric Fever ... ..	...	...	...
Measles	3	5	33
Scarlet Fever	1	...	...
Whooping Cough	4	6	5
Diphtheria	4	1	8
Influenza	52	63	51
Erysipelas ... ..	...	...	...
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	24	21	32
Tuberculous Meningitis	4	...	3
Other Tuberculous Diseases	5	2	5
Cancer	20	25	22
Rheumatic Fever ... ..	...	3	...
Meningitis	2	1	2
Organic Heart Disease	29	29	15
Bronchitis	26	36	34
Pneumonia	43	24	74
Other Respiratory Diseases ... ..	...	1	1
Diarrhoea	6	3	5
Appendicitis	2	1	...
Cirrhosis of Liver ... ..	...	...	3
Alcoholism ... ..	...	...	...
Nephritis and Brights Disease	9	8	7
Puerperal Fever ... ..	...	...	...
Diseases and Accidents of Pregnancy	1	...	1
Congenital Debility, &c., &c.	6	5	20
Violence	6	2	14
Suicide... ..	...	3	2
Other Defined Diseases	61	62	45
Causes Ill-defined ... ..	...	...	...
Totals	308	301	382

the various Wards of the Borough.

Broadway	Park	Upton	West Ham	Plaistow	Hudsons	Canning Town	Tidal Basin	Custom House
...	1	1	...	1	1	...	1	2
4	1	...	9	16	29	18	29	27
...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
3	4	...	5	2	17	13	30	16
5	1	1	4	13	15	12	8	14
57	34	57	94	123	93	107	174	151
1	...	...	...	1	1	3	...	...
25	23	23	40	46	38	44	60	62
3	3	2	11	13	4	3	5	6
4	3	2	3	6	6	6	3	7
18	10	23	23	24	27	21	24	29
...	1	...	1	5	...	2	2	2
1	2	...	2	1	3	2	4	2
10	22	29	46	35	36	28	26	32
23	27	31	43	47	37	54	68	50
47	28	31	90	82	111	80	101	101
...	1	1	7	6	10	4	4	3
8	2	3	10	8	19	28	41	25
1	...	2	5	3	2	2	1	3
...	...	...	1	...	2	1	1	...
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...
5	3	8	15	7	10	13	8	2
...	...	...	...	1	...	1	1	...
1	...	...	1	2	3	5	...	3
9	7	9	23	31	20	20	44	31
6	7	8	16	14	12	22	13	19
1	2	2	2	3	2	...	1	5
45	49	55	85	96	92	72	106	80
...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
277	233	288	536	586	591	561	757	672

Causes of Death in persons dying within Institutions in the Borough.

Enteric Fever	1	Pneumonia	72
Smallpox	—	Other Respiratory Disease	4
Measles	6	Diarrhoea and Enteritis ...	12
Scarlet Fever	3	Appendicitis	11
Whooping Cough... ..	1	Alcoholism	—
Diphtheria	63	Cirrhosis of Liver... ..	1
Influenza	75	Nephritis and Bright's	
Erysipelas	1	Disease	5
Cerebro Spinal Fever ...	1	Puerperal Fever	2
Syphilis	1	Accidents of Pregnancy ...	6
Phthisis	59	Debility, Prematurity, &c.	26
Tubercular Meningitis ...	10	Accidents	65
Other Tubercular Disease	8	Suicides	4
Rheumatic Fever	—	Other Defined Diseases ...	263
Cancer	56	Ill Defined Diseases ...	—
Bronchitis	36		
Broncho-pneumonia ...	46	Total	838

Inquests.

344 Inquests were held on account of the following accidents or causes :—

By Road, Rail, or		By Suicide	22
Machinery	45	„ Disease of Brain ...	17
„ Accidents in Docks ...	9	„ „ Chest	96
„ Burns	23	„ „ Heart	23
„ Drowning	12	„ „ Abdomen	6
„ Suffocation in Bed ...	7	„ Fall	33
„ „ Otherwise	12	„ Other Causes	39

Comparison of Attack-rate and Death-rate from the principal causes of death during 1918.

Disease	Number of attacks	Attack rate per 1,000 Population	Number of deaths	Death rate per 1,000 Population
Enteric Fever	52	0.19	7	0.02
Measles	—	—	174	0.66
Scarlet Fever	445	1.69	3	0.01
Whooping Cough	—	—	105	0.39
Diphtheria	682	2.59	86	0.32
Diarrhoea	—	—	158	0.60
Influenza	—	—	1,056	4.01
Erysipelas	203	0.77	6	0.02
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	815	3.10	438	1.66
Other forms of Tuberculosis ...	245	0.93	109	0.41
Cancer	—	—	266	1.01
Heart Disease	—	—	337	1.28
Bronchitis	—	—	476	1.81
Pneumonia	—	—	812	3.08
Puerperal Fever	7	0.02	3	0.01

Infant mortality = 116 per 1,000 births.

Maternity and Child Welfare.

Particulars relating to the County Borough Council of West Ham during 1918:—

POPULATION—

(1) Census, 1911, 289,030.

(2) Estimated 1918—for Birth-rate, 294,523;
for Death-rate, 262,858.

BIRTHS—

Registered (1) Legitimate, 5,766 (2) Illegitimate, 255 (3) Total, 6,021

Notified ... (1) Live births, 5,674 (2) Still births, 185 (3) Total, 5,859

(1) By Midwives, 4,517 (2) By Parents and Doctors, 1,342

INFANT DEATHS—

Number ... (1) Legitimate, 651 (2) Illegitimate, 49 (3) Total, 700

Rate per 1,000

births ... (1) Legitimate, 112 (2) Illegitimate, 192 (3) Total, 116

MIDWIVES—

Number practising in the District...(1) Trained, 59 (2) Untrained, 5

Where the Local Authority is the

Authority inspecting the midwives

the number of visits paid... (1) Routine, 42 (2) Special, 17

HEALTH VISITORS—Visits paid by Health Visitors during the year
(Council and Charity)—

To Expectant Mothers...(1) First visits, 5,051 (2) Total visits, 13,968

To Infants under 1 ... (1) First visits, 6,032 (2) Total visits, 59,577

To Children 1-5 ... Total visits, 20,397

MUNICIPAL CENTRES—(By Voluntary Societies linked up with
Council Scheme)—

Address	Day	Time	Present arrangements for medical supervision	Average attendance per week	
				Expectant Mothers	Chil- dren
Chesterton House	M., W., Th.	1.30	Dr. Angus Kennedy	80	161
Boyd Institute	M., Th.	1.30	Dr. Brown ...	72	150
Martin Street	Th.	3.30	Dr. Angus Kennedy	11	9
Lees Hall ...	T., W.	10.30	Dr. J. L. Hawthorne	—	93
Oxford Road ...	W.	2.30	Dr. Dayus ...	—	20
Union Road ...	M. alt. F.	2.30	Dr. Dorothea Brookes	3	23

	Number of cases notified	Number of cases visited	Number of cases nursed	Number of cases removed to Hospital
Ophthalmia	62	62	62	—
Neonatorum				
Puerperal Fever ..	7	7	2	5
Measles	3,445	3,818	63	2

ACCOMMODATION IN HOMES AND HOSPITALS FOR:—

- (1) Complicated maternity cases—
 - (1) Howards Road. 3 beds.
 - (2) Forest Gate Sick Home. Board of Guardians. Cases admitted as required.
- (2) Ordinary maternity cases—
 - (1) Howards Road. 12 beds.
 - (2) Forest Gate Sick Home. 22.
- (3) Children up to 5 years of age—
 - (1) Women's Settlement Hospital. 8.
 - (2) St. Mary's Hospital. 2.
- (4) Convalescent Maternity cases and Convalescent Children.
- (5) Children of widowed, deserted and unmarried mothers, and unmarried mothers and their children together. Howards Road. 13.

1911–1914—Births, 8,848 ; birth rate, 30·3 ; infant deaths, 1,014 ; infant mortality, 115.

1915—Births, 8,380 ; birth rate, 28·5 ; infant deaths, 940 ; infant mortality, 112.

1916—Births, 8,472 ; birth rate, 27·0 ; infant deaths, 828 ; infant mortality, 98.

1917—Births, 6,701 ; birth rate, 22·1 ; infant deaths, 707 ; infant mortality, 105.

1918—Births, 6,021 ; birth rate, 20·4 ; infant deaths, 700 ; infant mortality, 116.

MIDWIVES.—Sixty-four. They attended 76 per cent. of the births in 1918, and are inspected by the Medical Officer of Health and a specially-appointed Health Visitor who is a Certified Midwife. The Plaistow Maternity Charity provide the services of Midwives and Doctors in aid of necessitous women.

The Notification of Births Act came into force in 1908; 5,859 births, or 97 per cent., were notified in 1918.

HEALTH VISITORS.—The Council employ ten Health Visitors who devote the whole of their time to visiting children up to 5 years of age. The Council also subsidises the Stratford Mothers' Welcome, the Health Visitor from which Centre visits infants in a special area of the parish of Trinity Mission. The Women's League of Service at their Centre in Union Road (Broadway Ward) employ a Health Visitor, who visits infants in a special area around that Centre. The Plaistow Maternity Charity do a large amount of Health Visiting in connection with their maternity cases, and in 1918 paid 36,519 visits to infants under 12 months of age. All the infants are visited at least monthly up till 1 year, after which the children are transferred and the visits continued by the Council's Health Visitors. The Charity also undertake ante natal visiting, and in 1918, 12,500 visits were paid to expectant mothers.

CENTRES.—The Plaistow Maternity Charity and District Nurses Home, which exists for the purpose of training and supplying Midwives for confinements and Nurses for home treatment, have three Centres in West Ham in connection with their work, viz. (1) Chesterton House, Balaam Street, Plaistow; (2) Boyd Institute, St. Luke's Square, Tidal Basin; (3) Martin Street, Stratford. There is an ante-natal Clinic, under medical supervision, held twice weekly at (1), and once weekly at (2) and (3), and an infant consultation, also under medical supervision, once weekly at each. Infants are weighed. Dried Milk, Virol and Drugs are supplied at (1), where there also is a Milk Dépôt. The

Students, Nurses and Midwives of the Charity assist in the work of the Centres, and the Council's Health Visitors attend when necessary.

(4) The South West Ham Health Society have an Infant Welfare Centre at Lees Hall, Canning Town, which is under medical supervision and is open weekly. There is also a School for Mothers, and Classes in Needlework, Cooking and Hygiene are held, as well as Clothing and Provident Clubs. Dried Milk, Virol, Cod Liver Oil and Malt are supplied. A Nursery School has recently been opened.

(5) The Stratford Mothers' Welcome, in connection with Trinity Mission, hold weekly infant consultations, under medical supervision, and organise Classes for Needlework and Health talks. Dried Milk and Virol are supplied.

(6) The Women's League of Service have opened a Maternity and Child Welfare Centre on the premises of the Stratford Day Nursery in Union Road. Ante-natal and infant consultations are held weekly, under medical supervision. Dinners are supplied daily, at small cost, to expectant and nursing mothers. Classes are held for Needlework and Hygiene. Dried Milk, Virol and Drugs supplied.

ANTE-NATAL WORK.—Expectant mothers are visited at their homes by the Health Visitors of the Council and of the above Centres, and drafted to the appropriate Clinic for medical advice or treatment.

HOSPITAL TREATMENT.—Complicated cases of confinement and complications arising after parturition are received into the Plaistow Maternity Charity's Hospital, which has 20 beds, 10 of which are allocated to the Municipality in consideration of an annual subsidy of £400. A new Maternity Block is about to be opened in connection with the Queen Mary's Hospital for the East End at Stratford, and subject to the approval of the Ministry

of Health 10 beds will be allocated to the County Borough of West Ham at an agreed charge. It is also proposed by the Council, subject to a like approval, to obtain the use of certain beds, for treatment of women and children, at the Women's Settlement Hospital, Balaam Street, and at the St. Mary's Hospital, for women and children, at Plaistow.

Twenty-two beds at the Forest Gate Sick Home are provided by the Board of Guardians for "waiting cases" and maternity cases, a charge being made. Complicated maternity cases are received as required.

By the rules of the Central Midwives' Board it is the duty of a Midwife to call in the aid of a Registered Medical Practitioner in the event of any abnormality occurring in connection with the confinement or any untoward symptom in either mother or child. During 1918 records of sending for medical help were forwarded by 49 midwives for the undermentioned conditions:—

On account of the Mother—

Ante-partum hæmorrhage ...	15
Post-partum do. ...	11
Abortion ...	4
Fits ...	3
Purulent discharge...	1
Varicose veins ...	4
Malpresentation ...	9
Retention of placenta ...	22
Rupture of perinæum ...	54
Rise of temperature ...	66
Prolonged labour ...	39
White leg ...	5
Unsatisfactory condition ...	20

On account of the Child—

Injury during birth ...	1
Deformity ...	4
Feebleness ...	83
Discharge from eyes ...	47
Skin eruptions ...	2
Still birth ...	42
Swelling on head ...	2

Five midwives also consulted the Local Supervising Authority on account of having been exposed to infection of Puerperal Fever.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

Cause of Death	Under 1 week	1—2 weeks	2—3 weeks	3—4 weeks	Total under 1 month	1—3 months	3—6 months	6—9 months	9—12 months	Total deaths, under 1 year
Small-pox ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chicken-pox ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	14	18
Scarlet Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2	4
Whooping Cough ...	...	...	...	...	...	7	8	12	13	40
Diarrhœa ...	...	...	...	...	...	6	10	9	2	27
Enteritis, Colitis ...	...	1	1	...	2	15	31	21	18	87
Tuberculous Meningitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	2	7	4	3	16
Abdominal Tuberculosis ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	...	3
Other Tuberculous Disease ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	2
Congenital Malformation ...	7	2	2	3	14	6	2	2	1	25
Premature Birth ...	57	16	4	2	79	10	3	...	...	92
Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus ...	34	14	10	5	63	19	13	4	1	100
Atelectasis ...	9	...	...	...	9	...	...	...	...	9
Injury at Birth ...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Erysipelas ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Syphilis ...	1	...	...	...	1	2	4	1	1	9
Rickets ...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	1	3
Meningitis (not Tuberculous) ...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	1	1	6
Convulsions ...	2	1	...	...	3	1	4	4	2	14
Gastritis ...	...	...	1	...	1	2	3	1	2	9
Laryngitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bronchitis ...	1	2	1	1	5	18	13	10	13	59
Pneumonia, all forms ...	...	...	...	3	3	21	24	29	45	122
Overlaying ...	1	1	1	1	4	2	...	2	...	8
Other Causes ...	2	...	1	1	4	6	9	13	13	45
Totals	114	37	22	16	189	122	136	122	132	700

Illegitimate Births—262.

Illegitimate Deaths—49.

The work of the Health Visitors may be summarised as under:—

Visits to the Homes.—Following-up the notifications of births the Health Visitors visit and advise *re* feeding of the infant, personal and domestic hygiene, also the health of the mother during ante-natal and nursing periods.

Lactagol.—To encourage breast-feeding, Lactagol is given to necessitous cases with very good results.

Centres.—Children not making satisfactory progress are sent to the Infant Welfare Centres for medical advice. The Health Visitors work in co-operation with the Plaistow Maternity Charity Infant Welfare Centres at Chesterton House and Boyd Institute, the South West Ham Health Society Welfare Centre at Lees Hall, the Trinity Mission Infant Welfare Centre at Great Eastern Road, and the Women's League of Service Infant Welfare Centre at Union Road Day Nursery.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum is visited directly on notification, and carefully watched to ensure the carrying out of the medical treatment prescribed.

Measles.—Cases requiring nursing treatment are reported to Medical Officer of Health.

Illness.—Children and mothers who may need surgical or other special treatment are advised *re* attendance at Hospitals; also in cases of illness or distress mothers are put in touch with various agencies for relief. The Plaistow Maternity Charity District Nurses, the Local War Pensions Committee, the Invalid Children's Aid Society, and the Charity Organisation Society, have given assistance, upon the recommendation of the Health Visitors. During the recent epidemic of influenza, the Health Visitors visited cases reported to them during the ordinary course of routine visits. Others sent messages to the Town Hall asking to be visited. Nursing and preventive treatment was advised and taught.

Priority Certificates for Milk are issued by the Local Food Control to nursing mothers, infants, young children and invalids. The Health Officer sends in daily to the Food Control the names of those requiring milk. This scheme has been generally successful.

Full Cream Dried Milk is distributed at reduced price to mothers unable to pay full price, and upon recommendation from the Health Visitor may be obtained at the Infant Welfare Centres and also from the Town Hall.

Milk Supply.—Under the Dairies, Cowsheds and Milk Shops Orders 290 premises were on the Register for the Sale of Milk at the commencement of the year, the majority being small general shops, retailing very small quantities of milk under somewhat unsatisfactory conditions in respect of cleanliness. During the year 8 fresh premises were placed on the Register, while 124 retailers ceased the sale of milk, and their names were struck off leaving 174 premises in occupation at the end of the year. It was found necessary, on inspection, to serve 17 Notices to abate various defects in connection with these premises.

In addition to the above, the Register contains the names of 19 persons registered as cowkeepers, whose premises accommodated 262 cows, all of which were inspected each quarter by A. McCunn, Esq., Veterinary Inspector to the Council, for the purpose of ascertaining whether any are affected with tuberculosis of the udder.

Most of the cowsheds are kept in a fairly cleanly state, but two are constantly under repeated notices, and have both been the subject of prosecution, on account of dilapidated conditions and want of cleanliness. In each case fines were imposed and orders made to remedy the defects.

INFLUENZA.—The outstanding mortality feature of 1918 was the effect of the Influenza pandemic which, having notably affected Spain, spread rapidly to this country, causing two epidemics—the first about Midsummer, followed by a disastrous attack in November. Although similar widespread epidemics had occurred on several occasions during the previous century, especially in 1803, 1833, 1837, 1847 and 1889-92, the fatality arising from last year's outbreak was, at least in West Ham, so far as can be estimated, much greater than on any previous occasion, and involved exceptional investigation and administrative action.

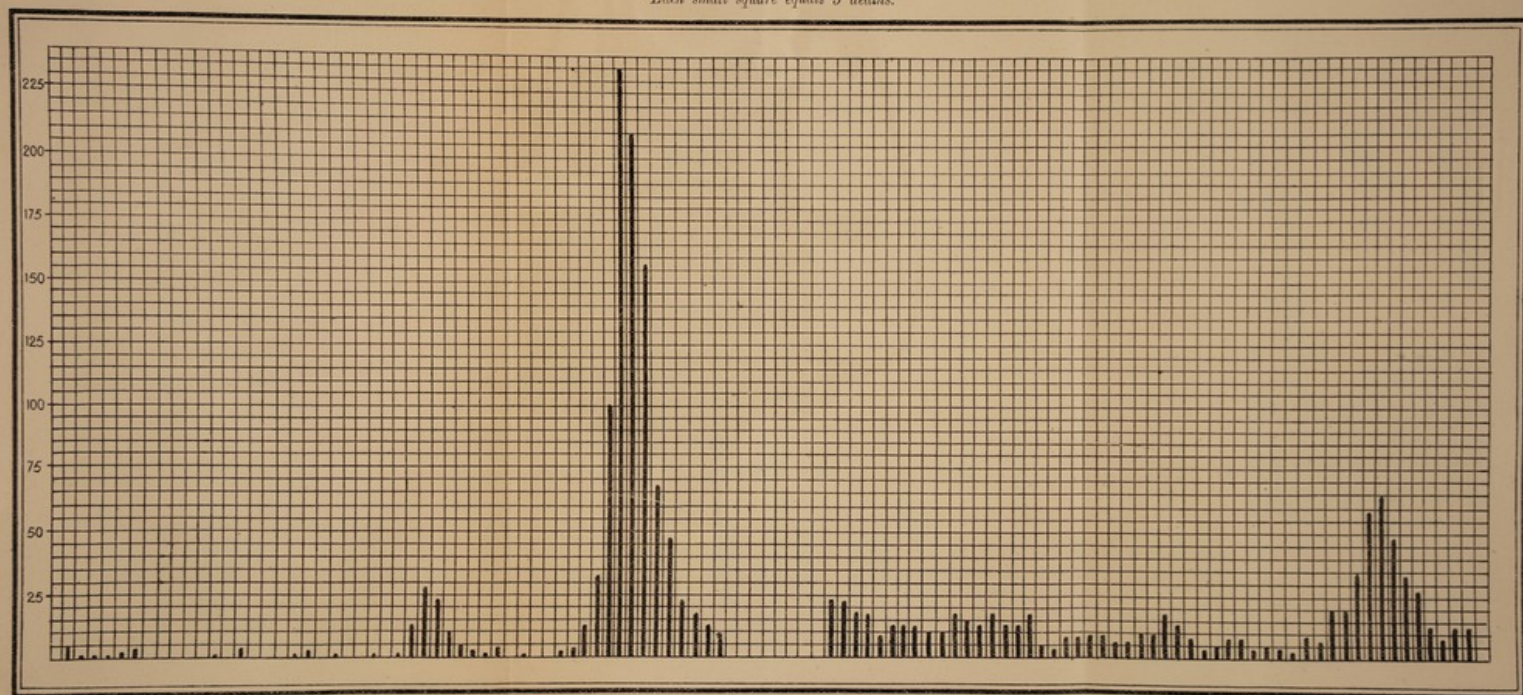
In 1892 Pfeiffer discovered a bacillus which was sufficiently constant in connection with the disease as to be looked upon as its casual germ, but bacteriologists assert that in the present instance both the pneumococcus and the streptococcus were equally constant, and probably more responsible for the fatal complications, which latter most commonly assume the form of pneumonia. The frequency with which that complication produces a fatal result in cases of Influenza renders a consideration of both forms of disease during an epidemic essential, and in the present instance led the Local Government Board to issue an Order requiring the notification of Influenzal Pneumonia. The figures under this Order, however, are not available for the 1918 epidemic, and the records given herein are based partly on the death returns and partly on a special investigation into a number of houses, carried out at the end of the year when the epidemic was rapidly disappearing.

The accompanying chart, in which each small square represents five deaths, gives ocular expression to the number of deaths from Influenza and Pneumonia, respectively, each week during the year, and the following tables set out these deaths distributed to certain age periods, from which it will be noted that the two epidemics of Influenza occurred (a) during the weeks 27 to 30, *i.e.*, during the month of July, and (b) during the weeks 42 to 50, *i.e.*, from the middle of October till the middle of December, reaching the greatest magnitude during the fortnight ending November 9th. It is also apparent that the number of deaths registered as due to Pneumonia, without any reference to their being due to, or associated with, Influenza, was somewhat increased during the period of each epidemic, but otherwise pursued a normal course.

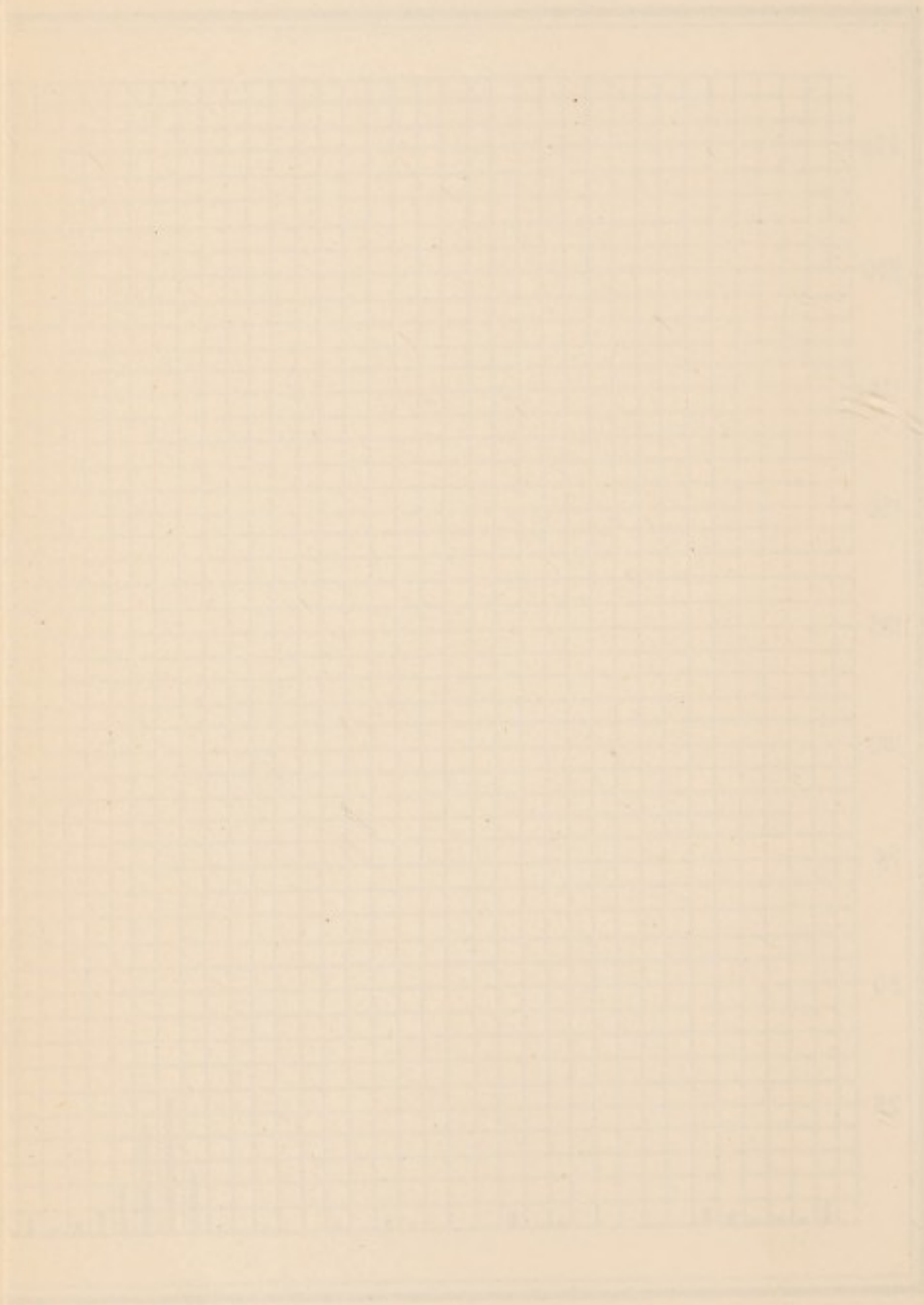
Deaths from Influenza each week during 1918.

Deaths from Pneumonia each week during 1918.

Each small square equals 5 deaths.



Beach from Indians' camp



Deaths from Influenza each week during 1918
at varying ages.

Week ending	Total Deaths	Under 1 year	1-2	2-5	5-15	15-25	25-45	45-65	65 and upwards
5th January ..	5	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	3
12th " ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
19th " ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
26th " ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	..	...
2nd February ...	2	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
9th " ...	3	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1
16th " ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
23rd " ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2nd March ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
9th " ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
16th " ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
23rd " ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
30th " ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6th April ...	3	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1
13th " ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
20th " ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
27th " ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
4th May ...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
11th " ...	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
18th " ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
25th " ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
1st June ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
8th " ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
15th " ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
22nd " ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...
29th " ...	2	...	...	...	..	1	...	...	1
6th July ...	14	1	1	1	...	3	4	3	1
13th " ...	27	...	1	...	2	1	10	6	7
20th " ...	22	...	2	...	...	5	8	3	4
27th " ...	10	...	...	...	...	3	5	2	...
Carried forward...	97	2	4	3	2	13	33	19	21

Deaths from Influenza—*continued.*

Week ending	Total Deaths	Under 1 year	1-2	2-5	5-15	15-25	25-45	45-65	65 and upwards
Brought forward..	97	2	4	3	2	13	33	19	21
3rd August ...	5	...	...	...	1	...	3	...	1
10th „ ...	3	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	...
17th „ ...	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...
24th „ ...	4	...	...	...	...	2	1	1	...
31st „ ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
7th September...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
14th „ ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
21st „ ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
28th „ ...	2	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...
5th October ...	2	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...
12th „ ...	13	...	1	...	2	3	3	3	1
19th „ ...	31	...	1	1	9	6	11	2	1
26th „ ...	100	3	4	7	13	15	34	20	4
2nd November...	235	7	12	19	26	37	90	34	10
9th „ ...	208	5	11	29	30	20	73	27	13
16th „ ...	157	3	8	21	24	20	48	25	8
23rd „ ...	67	1	2	6	11	5	25	14	3
30th „ ...	46	...	3	5	5	8	15	6	4
7th December ...	21	1	2	2	4	1	8	3	...
14th „ ...	18	...	...	...	3	4	5	4	2
21st „ ...	11	1	...	1	...	1	3	4	1
28th „ ...	7	...	...	1	...	1	1	3	1
Totals ...	1,030	23	48	95	130	138	358	168	70

**Deaths from Pneumonia each week during 1918
at varying ages.**

Week ending.	Total deaths	Under 1 year	1-2	2-5	5-15	15-25	25-45	45-65	65 and upwards
5th January ...	21	8	4	2	...	...	1	4	2
12th " ...	21	7	3	2	1	...	4	2	2
19th " ...	19	6	6	1	1	...	3	1	1
26th " ...	18	2	4	2	1	1	1	3	4
2nd February ...	8	2	2	2	...	...	...	...	2
9th " ...	13	3	2	2	1	2	2	1	...
16th " ...	11	2	5	2	...	...	1	1	...
23rd " ...	11	2	4	1	1	...	1	1	1
2nd March ...	10	...	2	1	2	...	...	4	1
9th " ...	10	2	4	3	...	...	...	1	...
16th " ...	17	5	2	7	2	...	...	...	1
23rd " ...	15	4	3	4	...	...	2	...	2
30th " ...	13	6	5	1	...	...	1	...	...
6th April ...	16	3	5	...	1	...	...	5	2
13th " ...	13	3	4	1	...	1	1	2	1
20th " ...	12	2	3	3	...	...	1	2	1
27th " ...	16	2	8	4	...	...	...	2	...
4th May ...	4	1	1	1	...	...	1	...	...
11th " ...	3	1	1	...	...	...	1	...	...
18th " ...	7	3	...	2	...	...	...	1	1
25th " ...	7	1	2	1	...	...	1	2	...
1st June ...	8	2	...	...	...	1	2	2	1
8th " ...	8	1	1	...	2	1	1	1	1
15th " ...	6	...	1	2	...	...	1	1	1
22nd " ...	6	1	2	...	1	...	...	2	...
29th " ...	9	1	...	1	1	1	1	2	2
6th July ...	9	...	1	1	1	2	3	1	...
13th " ...	17	1	4	2	1	1	5	2	1
20th " ...	14	1	1	2	1	3	3	1	2
27th " ...	7	1	1	...	...	1	2	2	...
Carried forward...	349	73	81	50	17	14	39	46	29

Deaths from Pneumonia—continued.

Week ending,	Total deaths	Under 1 year	1-2	2-5	5-15	15-25	25-45	45-65	65 and upwards
Brought forward	349	73	81	50	17	14	39	46	29
3rd August ...	3	1	...	...	...	1	1	...	...
10th " ...	5	1	2	...	1	...	1	...	...
17th " ...	7	...	1	4	1	...	1	...	...
24th " ...	7	...	...	...	3	...	1	3	...
31st " ...	4	1	...	...	...	...	1	2	...
7th September...	5	1	1	...	...	...	1	2	...
14th " ...	4	...	...	...	1	1	...	2	...
21st " ...	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
28th " ...	9	...	1	2	..	1	4	...	1
5th October ..	6	...	1	1	1	...	1	2	...
12th " ...	19	3	...	1	4	6	5	...	...
19th " ...	19	1	1	3	1	4	7	1	1
26th " ...	35	2	1	7	3	5	12	2	3
2nd November...	58	5	4	6	9	7	21	5	1
9th " ...	65	4	8	11	9	8	13	9	3
16th " ...	48	2	9	17	1	2	11	3	3
23rd " ...	33	4	4	3	5	7	5	3	2
30th " ...	26	4	3	5	2	1	5	2	4
7th December ...	11	1	1	1	1	...	...	4	3
14th " ...	8	1	...	1	...	...	3	1	2
21st " ...	11	3	1	1	1	...	2	2	1
28th " ...	12	4	2	1	...	...	2	2	1
Totals ...	746	112	121	114	60	57	136	92	54

Death Rates.—The total deaths from Influenza numbered 1,030, equal to an annual death rate of 3.9 per 1,000 of the estimated population, while the total deaths from Pneumonia numbered 746, giving a death rate of 2.8 per 1,000.

Age and Sex Distribution.—Of the total 1,030 deaths from Influenza, 455 or 44 per cent. occurred in males and 575 or 56 per cent. in females, while in the case of Pneumonia the deaths in both sexes were nearly equal, being 384 and 362, or 51.4 and 48.6 per cent. respectively.

On the other hand, there is a marked difference in the distribution of the deaths in these two diseases at various age periods, as will be seen set out in Table III.

TABLE III.

Age period	Deaths from Influenza	Per cent. of total deaths	Deaths from Pneumonia	Per cent. of total deaths.
Under 1 year	... 23	2.2	112	15.0
1-2 years ...	... 48	4.6	121	16.2
2-5 „ ...	... 95	9.2	114	15.2
5-15 „ ...	... 130	12.6	60	8.0
15-25 „ ...	... 138	13.4	57	7.6
25-45 „ ...	... 358	34.7	136	18.2
45-65 „ ...	... 168	16.3	92	12.3
65 upwards ...	... 70	6.7	54	7.2

The distribution of the above deaths to the respective Wards of the Borough is given below:—

Influenza deaths—

New Town ... 48	Forest Gate 62	High Street ... 51
Broadway ... 56	Park ... 33	Upton... ... 51
West Ham ... 87	Plaistow ... 116	Hudsons ... 90
Canning Town 110	Tidal Basin 178	Custom House 148

Pneumonia deaths—

New Town ... 38	Forest Gate 25	High Street ... 72
Broadway ... 44	Park ... 22	Upton... ... 23
West Ham ... 92	Plaistow ... 78	Hudsons ... 112
Canning Town 71	Tidal Basin 76	Custom House 93

Special Enquiry.—Early in December a special enquiry was made by the four Lady Inspectors, with a view to ascertaining the prominent features of the epidemic. 449 houses known to be affected with Influenza were visited, and enquiries made into 1,449 cases of the disease found to have occurred in these houses.

Of the 1,449 cases 582 occurred in males, of whom 165 died, and 867 occurred in females, of whom 247 died; the fatality in each sex being the same, namely, 28 per cent.

Second Attacks.—In only 99 cases, or 6 per cent., was there a satisfactory history of a previous attack of Influenza, while 50 persons were unable to state whether or not a previous attack of illness of a similar character was, or was not, Influenza. There can be little doubt that the main cause of the spread of the disease is direct infection from another sufferer by coughing or sneezing, and the close proximity of persons both in crowded houses and crowded trains affords ample scope for such spread. At the same time many instances occur in which a personal immunity to the disease appears to be present. One investigator found in 94 infected houses 251 persons who did not contract the disease.

In the case of school children diminished exposure to infection may be due to the greater number of children kept at home by their parents in some areas than in others, either by reason of their children showing definite symptoms of disease or from exceptional precautionary absenteeism on the earliest symptom of illness.

At the end of October, when there was no reason, judging

from the returns, for concluding that the disease was more prevalent in one part of the Borough than another, the Head Teachers of four typical schools in different parts of the Borough supplied me with particulars of school attendance, from which the percentage of absentees in the various Departments have been abstracted and set out below.

Percentage of children absent from the undermentioned Schools:—

	Whitehall Place	Bridge Road	Balaam Street	Russell Road
Boys ...	119	19	24	21
Girls ...	96	13	37	28
Infants ...	176	17	29	18

Prominent Symptoms and Complications.—Early in the epidemic it was reported that epistaxis (nose bleeding) and cyanosis (blueness of the skin) were exceptionally common, and enquiry was made in all the special cases visited, in order to ascertain what were the chief symptoms exhibited. At the same time information was obtained as to the previous movements of the patient in respect of attendance at public gatherings shortly before the attack, and with regard to possible infection in train, tram or bus. These results are set out below, distributed to varying age periods and each sex, together with total percentage for each symptom enumerated.

	MALES.						FEMALES.									
	Under 1 year.	1-5.	5-15.	15-25.	25-45.	45- .	Total.	%	Under 1 year.	1-5.	5-15.	15-25.	25-45.	45- .	Total.	%
No. of Cases Investigated ...	13	105	247	61	107	49	582	...	21	97	246	144	275	84	867	...
Public Gathering within 7 Days ...	...	4	24	13	11	3	55	9	..	1	24	32	17	13	87	10
Traveller by Train, Tram or Bus ...	...	1	4	26	45	12	88	15	...	...	5	61	38	2	106	12
Nasal Catarrh ...	8	58	157	24	69	18	334	57	10	66	165	95	139	40	515	59
Fainting ...	...	3	4	9	11	6	33	5	...	...	12	25	31	12	80	9
Epistaxis ...	1	20	39	12	11	3	86	14	...	15	53	31	32	4	135	15
Pneumonia ...	6	34	24	18	48	16	146	24	9	35	37	42	75	22	220	25
Sickness ...	3	39	91	15	28	7	183	31	10	31	82	43	60	16	242	27
Diarrhoea ...	1	15	23	5	7	7	58	9	4	14	19	18	18	7	80	9
Deafness ...	2	4	13	5	1	4	29	4	2	...	7	16	6	7	38	4
Delirium ...	2	13	72	18	53	22	180	30	...	23	70	45	82	29	249	28
Cyanosis ...	...	8	3	7	15	5	38	6	...	12	7	9	13	9	50	5
Bronchitis ...	1	1	9	3	5	2	21	3	5	6	11	1	11	9	43	5
Rash ...	...	3	23	...	2	4	32	5	...	4	8	3	11	...	26	3

OCCUPATIONS.— Excluding children the number of persons attacked with Influenza in certain occupations out of 582 persons interrogated were found to be as set out below :—

	Men	Women
Soldiers	18	—
Housewives	—	282
Clerks	13	24
Factory hands	8	31
Munition workers...	10	14
Machinists... ..	—	16
Shop assistants	4	15
Milliners	—	7
Dock labourers	18	—
Labourers	16	5
Carmen	10	—
Engineers	11	—
Engine-drivers	6	—
Electricians	5	—
Bakers	4	—
Domestic servants...	—	4
Charwomen	—	4
Boiler-makers	8	—
Bus conductors	1	1

Other occupations among males were : Builders, 4 ; Tailors, 3 ; Painters, 3 ; Porters, 4 ; Millers, 2 ; Travellers, 2 ; Coachbuilders, 2 ; Caretakers, 2 ; Civil Servants, 2 ; other, 5. Among females : Dress-makers, 2 ; School Teachers, 2 ; Music Teachers, 2 ; Nurses, 2 ; Ward Maids, 2 ; Toy-makers, 2 ; Box-makers, 3 ; other, 3.

Incidence of Influenza and Fatality at varying age periods in each sex and both sexes combined.

Sex	Age periods	No. of cases	Per cent. of total cases	No. of deaths	Per cent. of total deaths	Fatality = per cent. of deaths to attacks
Males ...	under 1 year...	13	2.2	6	3.6	46
	1—5 years...	105	18.0	40	24.2	38
	5—15 „ ...	247	42.4	23	13.9	9
	15—25 „ ...	61	10.4	21	12.7	34
	25—45 „ ...	107	18.3	56	33.9	52
	45 upwards...	49	8.4	19	11.5	39
	Total ...	582		165		28
Females ...	under 1 year...	21	2.4	11	4.4	52
	1—5 years...	97	11.1	38	15.3	39
	5—15 „ ...	246	28.3	35	14.1	14
	15—25 „ ...	144	16.6	41	16.6	28
	25—45 „ ...	275	31.7	85	34.4	30
	45 upwards...	84	9.6	37	14.9	44
	Total ...	867		247		28
Both Sexes	under 1 year...	34	2.3	17	4.1	50
	1—5 years...	202	13.9	78	18.9	38
	5—15 „ ...	493	34.3	58	14.0	11
	15—25 „ ...	205	14.1	62	15.4	30
	25—45 „ ...	382	26.3	141	34.2	37
	45 upwards...	133	9.1	56	13.4	42
	Total ...	1,449	100.0	412	100.0	28

Action Taken to Diminish the Spread of the Disease.

As soon as the epidemic began, leaflets, as printed below, giving advice as to precautionary measures were distributed throughout the Borough, and posters containing the same matter were affixed to the various stations for public notices.

COUNTY BOROUGH OF WEST HAM.

INFLUENZA.

WARNING.—The Person attacked by Influenza who does not take precautions runs grave risks himself and may be a source of danger to others.

Influenza is a serious disease and is highly infectious. Infection is always caught through direct contact with a person suffering from the disease. A very severe attack may be caught from a person who has it in a mild form. The patient is most infectious at the beginning of the illness.

PRECAUTIONS.—Try to protect yourself and others.

How to Avoid Attack.

GENERAL RULES.

(1) **Protect Your Health.**—Remember if you protect your health, your health will protect you.

(2) **Cleanliness and Moderation.**—Lead a clean, simple, natural life. Avoid excesses of all kinds: the immoderate drinker stands a poor chance if Pneumonia follows Influenza.

(3) **Fresh Air and Ventilation.**—Be in the open air as much as possible, and get all the fresh air that can be got into the living and sleeping rooms by opening the window wide and often.

SPECIAL RULES.

(1) **Follow the General Rules.**—When Influenza is prevalent remember the above three Rules.

(2) **Avoid Overcrowded Places.**—The risks are greatest where there are numbers of people and ventilation is poor. Keep away from crowded meetings and places of amusement. Walk rather than travel in crowded trains, trams or 'buses.

(3) **Avoid Infected Houses and People.**—Avoid altogether or as much as possible any house where there are cases of Influenza. Keep at as great a distance as convenient when talking to anyone suffering from a cold in the head or a feverish cold.

(4) **The Path of Infection.**—Remember the infection gets into the body by the mouth and nose, and when Influenza is prevalent there is risk of breathing-in infection in most places of public resort.

(5) **A Clean Mouth and Teeth.**—At these times be careful to keep the mouth clean. See that the teeth are sound. Use the tooth-brush night and morning. Wash out the mouth and gargle the throat.

(6) **A Mouth Wash.**—Warm water containing a little salt and Condy's Fluid may be used.

(7) **Keep the Nostrils Clean.**—The nostrils may also be washed out by snuffing the mixture from the palm of the hand and expelling it through the mouth.

How to Protect Yourself if Attacked.

Pneumonia, Heart Failure, and Consumption often follow Influenza.

(1) **Isolation.**—Even if the attack is mild, keep indoors and take care of yourself. Remember the risks of complications and of spreading infection to others.

(2) **Avoid Draughts.**—The Influenza patient should be kept warm and protected from draughts. The mouth and nose may be washed out as already described.

(3) The Doctor and the Nurse.—In bad cases medical advice is essential, and careful nursing may be necessary. In these cases the patient should be as completely isolated as arrangements in the home allow.

(4) Prevent Complications.—After the illness and fever have gone, chill and over-exertion should be avoided.

How to Protect Others.

The Infected Person can and must Avoid Spreading Infection.

(1) Remain Indoors.—The proper place for a person with Influenza is indoors. He is a source of danger to others. Public places and meetings should be avoided as far as possible.

(2) Sneezing and Coughing.—When he sneezes or coughs, the infected person discharges infection that others may breathe, especially if the material coughed up is carelessly spat out.

(3) Shield the Mouth.—In coughing and sneezing the mouth and nose should be shielded with a handkerchief or otherwise. The handkerchief should not be carelessly left about and should be kept out of the reach of children.

(4) Destroy Expectoration.—Material coughed up should be received in a special vessel and afterwards disinfected or burned.

All these Rules apply equally well to a "Cold in the Head." When Influenza is prevalent any feverish cold may be Influenza and for the sake of the Sufferer and the Public should be considered Influenza.

Further information may be obtained from the Medical Officer of Health.

The question of School closure was considered, but it was decided that the evidence forthcoming was insufficient to suggest.

that greater exposure to infection occurred in the Schools at that time than in the ordinary course of civil life at home, and consequently no general closing of Schools was ordered.

Hospital accommodation was not available for very many sufferers who would have benefited thereby, but a few cases were able to be admitted both into the Council's Hospital at Plaistow and also into the three Voluntary Hospitals of the Borough, while Home Nursing was carried out under exceptional difficulties by the Plaistow Maternity Charity and District Nurses Home.

One outstanding feature of the November epidemic was the totally inadequate Staff obtainable by the various undertakers of the Borough, which was accompanied by greatly lengthened periods between death and burial, with the risk and impropriety attending retention of corpses in dwellings. Wherever such retention occurred the bodies were removed to one or other of the mortuaries, and in this respect at one period some fifty bodies were awaiting burial.

Disinfection of infected premises and public places was systematically carried out, and arrangements made by the Council, under the Public Health (Influenza) Regulations, 1918, prohibiting continuous exhibitions at Kinemas for a longer period than four hours, without an interval for free ventilation.

The following letter was addressed to every Medical Practitioner of the Borough:—

“ I am requested by the Medical Officer of the Local Government Board to inform you that the Board is now in a position to distribute supplies of Prophylactic Vaccine to Medical Officers of Health for use by Medical Practitioners in each district. It is thought that the vaccine may be used especially for the Staff of

Particulars of Notification of Infectious Diseases other than Measles.

Notifiable Diseases	Cases notified in whole District										Total cases in each Ward													Cases removed to Hospital from each Ward											Total Removals	
	All Ages	At Ages										New Town	Forest Gate	High Street	Broadway	Park	Upton	West Ham	Plaistow	Hudsons	Canning Town	Tidal Basin	Custom House	New Town	Forest Gate	High Street	Broadway	Park	Upton	West Ham	Plaistow	Hudsons	Canning Town	Tidal Basin		Custom House
		0-1	1-2	2-5	5-15	15-25	25-45	45-65	65+																											
Puerperal Fever	7	...	...	...	...	...	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	3	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2	...	...	1	...	...	5
Erysipelas	203	2	...	4	21	26	51	77	22	8	12	18	8	14	4	32	26	19	20	26	16	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	2	1	..	...	5
Scarlet Fever	445	3	16	109	288	26	3	...	...	14	17	19	33	26	12	38	54	46	48	61	77	9	6	7	19	14	5	20	25	17	15	29	37	203
Enteric Fever	52	...	...	3	14	11	16	8	...	...	...	8	5	2	5	7	4	8	1	5	7	...	...	5	2	2	3	6	2	5	...	3	4	32
Diphtheria	682	6	42	202	378	32	20	2	...	22	40	53	28	11	25	68	91	100	98	70	76	14	31	43	23	7	14	40	67	65	78	54	43	479		
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	62	62	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	6	5	3	1	1	5	7	7	4	7	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cerebro-spinal Fever ...	4	1	...	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	1	4	
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	5	...	1	2	...	...	1	1	...	1	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	2	
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	815	2	3	14	123	175	350	138	10	52	39	53	46	44	36	89	94	89	72	114	87	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	245	28	11	51	100	26	23	6	...	23	7	21	8	14	12	36	30	23	25	24	22	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	2,520	104	73	386	924	296	473	232	32	127	122	179	131	112	96	276	309	294	271	308	294	24	38	55	44	23	24	67	97	91	95	87	85	730		

Public Institutions likely to be disabled in the course of the epidemic.

“ If you should desire a supply of vaccine I shall be obliged if you will let me know, in order that I may obtain the same from the Board.

“ At the same time I desire to remind you that my Council offers facilities for local pathological investigations, *e.g.*, bacteriological examination of sputa. In forwarding specimens to me for examination it is essential that the name, age and address of the patient, the name and address of the practitioner, and note of examination required be enclosed with the specimen.

“ It is hoped that returns may be kept (especially where the vaccine has been used in public institutions) of facts which bear on the duration of incubation, the duration of infectivity, and any special clinical features of the outbreak.”

C. SANDERS,

Medical Officer of Health.

The epidemic, however, was well on the wane before the above offer was made and no general use of prophylactic vaccines was adopted. A supply was forwarded, on request, to two Medical Practitioners, but was not administered.

Convalescent Treatment.—Grants are made by the Council to the Invalid Children's Aid Association and to the Invalid and Crippled Children Society to assist in sending children to Convalescent Homes and other Homes where children are boarded out in the country or seaside for varying periods, either before or after residence at a Hospital. The above two Societies assess the parents with as much of the cost as they can reasonably pay towards their child's maintenance, and apply to the Medical Officer of Health for the whole or part of the balance payable to the Institution or Home receiving the child. The Medical Officer of Health is empowered, after enquiry, to authorise the necessary grant in aid, in order to enable the Society to send the case to an appropriate Home. The following is a list of the children so sent away during 1918, showing the disease for which convalescence was required and the Home or Institution in each case:—

	Years		
R. H. (F) ...	10	Spinal Caries ...	Rochampton
W. R. (M)...	11	Elbow ...	St. Andrew's, South Hayling
D. S. (F) ...	4	Glands...	Forest Hall
C. T. (M) ...	11	Phthisis ...	Harpenden
H. W. (M)...	7	Glands...	Beachey Head, West Mersea
Do. ...	7	Do. ...	Do.
C. A. (M) ...	3	Peritonitis ...	Bexhill
E. W. (F) ...	12	Debility	Brighton
F. W. (F) ...	11	Glands...	St. Mary's, Broadstairs
M. R. (F) ...	7	Do. ...	Do.
C. C. (M) ...	6	Spinal Caries ...	C. Hospital, Hadley
G. P. (F) ...	12	Phthisis ...	Ide Hill
G. D. (M) ...	7	Glands...	St. Mary's, Broadstairs
E. H. (M) ...	7	Adenitis ...	Bushey Heath
N. D. (F) ...	9	Spine ...	Alton
S. P. (M) ...	7	Glands ...	Forest Hall
G. W. (F) ...	12	Do. ...	Banstead

	Years			
A. B. (M) ...	11	Glands...	...	Forest Hall
T. J. (M) ...	7	Phthisis	...	Harpenden
F. B. (M) ...	11	Do. ...	...	Do.
L. J. (M) ...	12 $\frac{3}{4}$	Ankle ...	...	St. Andrew's, South Hayling
A. B. (M) ...	10	Glands...	...	Do.
G. S. (F) ...	7	Spine ...	...	Forest Hall
H. L. (M) ...	4	Knee ...	...	Do.
S. B. (M) ...	8	Phthisis	...	R.S.B.H., Margate
F. B. (F) ...	14	Phthisis, Thumb and Glands		Do.
W. B. (M) ...	9	Do. ...	...	Brompton
F. T. (F) ...	12	Glands, &c. ...	...	Sister Mays, West Mersea
D. W. (F) ...	6	Debility	...	Do.
A. M. (F) ...	10	Bronchial Catarrh		Do.
O. K. (F) ...	12	Do. ...	...	Do.
E. N. (F) ...	11	Peritonitis	...	Hawkenbury
D. E. (M) ...	3	Glands...	...	St. Mary's, Broadstairs
H. H. (M) ...	9	Phthisis	...	Harpenden
R. P. (F) ...	9	Do. ...	...	West Mersea
G. B. (M) ...	13	Peritonitis	...	Hurstpierpoint
F. L. (M) ...	3	Hip ...	...	South Hayling
G. H. (M) ...	13	Peritonitis	...	Hurstpierpoint
D. M. (F) ...	9	Hip ...	...	South Hayling
A. K. (M) ...	10	Adenitis	...	Do.
H. H. (M) ...	9	Phthisis	...	Brighton
L. D. (F) ...	16	Adenitis	...	Leigh-on-Sea
T. L. (M) ...	—	Bronchitis	...	Tilford
M. D. (M) ...	7	Spine ...	...	Alton
G. H. (F) ...	10	T.B. Knee	...	Burns Home, Newbury
S. G. (M) ...	9	Glands Groin	...	Tilford
J. B. (M) ...	11	Hip ...	...	Forest Hall
F. H. (M) ...	5	Spinal Caries	...	Do.

	Years			
I. W. (F) ...	8	Hip ...	...	Ascot Priory
G. S. (M) ...	8	Do. ...	...	South Hayling
F. C. (F) ...	11	Tabes, Mesen- terica, Anaemia		Brompton
M. P. (F) ...	5	Hip ...	...	South Hayling
I. F. (F) ...	13	Osteomyelitis ...		Do.
W. T. (M) ...	5	Glands...	...	St. Mary's, Broadstairs
N. H. (F) ...	5	Hip ...	...	Alexandra Hospital
D. P. (F) ...	16	Glands...	...	R.S.B.H.
E. P. (F) ...	4	Dorsal Vertebrae		Cold Ash
C. H. (M) ...	9	Hip ...	...	Surgical Home, Ban- stead
31 males		26 females		

Venereal Disease.—The following is a summary of the work done at various London Hospitals during 1918 in respect of West Ham residents under the general scheme entered into by the various Authorities of London and the Home Counties:—

1. Number of persons dealt with at or in connection with the Clinic for the first time and found to be suffering from:— Syphilis, 140; Soft Chancre, 4; Gonorrhœa, 84; not suffering from V.D., 43. Total, 271.
2. Number of persons discharged from the Clinic after completion of treatment for:—Syphilis, 3; Soft Chancre, 1; Gonorrhœa, 6. Total, 10.
3. Total attendances of all persons who were suffering from:— Syphilis, 1,234; Soft Chancre, 17; Gonorrhœa, 1,233; not suffering from V.D., 121. Total, 2,605.
4. Number of in-patient days of treatment given to persons suffering from Syphilis, 467; Gonorrhœa, 137. Total, 604.
5. Number of persons treated with Salvarsan substitutes, 142.
6. Number of doses of Salvarsan substitutes given, 524.

PATHOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS—

- (a) At Treatment Centres:—For detection of Spirochetes, 2; for detection of Gonococci, 192; for Wasserman reaction, 208; other examinations, 4. Total, 406.

- (b) For Practitioners:—For detection of Spirochetes, 0; for detection of Gonococci, 14; for Wasserman reaction, 190; other examinations, 0. Total, 204.

In addition to the above the following is a summary of the work carried out at the Albert Dock Branch Hospital of the Seamen's Society:—

1. Number of persons dealt with at or in connection with the Clinic for the first time and found to be suffering from:—Syphilis, 301; Soft Chancre, 30; Gonorrhœa, 253; not suffering from V.D., 52. Total, 636.
2. Number of persons discharged from the Clinic after completion of treatment for:—Syphilis, 57; Soft Chancre, 15; Gonorrhœa, 70. Total, 142.
3. Total attendances of all persons who were suffering from:—Syphilis, 2,077; Soft Chancre, 297; Gonorrhœa, 3,176; not suffering from V.D., 123. Total, 5,673
4. Number of in-patient days of treatment given to persons suffering from:—Syphilis, 430; Gonorrhœa, 95. Total, 525.
5. Number of persons treated with Salvarsan substitutes, 314.
6. Number of doses of Salvarsan substitutes given, 828.

PATHOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS—

For detection of Spirochetes ...	...	...	312
For detection of Gonococci ...	...	...	345
For Wasserman reaction ...	...	...	496
Other Examinations ...	...	...	22
Total ...			1,175

Housing.—During the year 1918 it was not possible to carry out the systematic house-to-house visitation of happier years, but 7,152 houses were inspected and notices served to remedy defects therein. It was found necessary to issue 36 Summonses in order to obtain a proper compliance with the notices, but in no case was a Closing Order required.

Factories and Workshops Act.

No. 1—INSPECTION.

Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises	Number of		
	In- spections	Written Notices	Prose- cutions
Factories—Including Factory Laundries	106	13	
Workshops — Including Workshop Laundries	170	11	
Workplaces—Other than Outworkers premises included in Part 3 of this report	45	7	
	321	31	

No. 2—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars	Number of Defects			Number of Prose- cutions
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	
Nuisances under Public Health Acts—				
Want of Cleanliness	47	47		
Want of Ventilation	—	—		
Overcrowding	2	2		
Want of drainage of floors ...	1	1		
Other Nuisances	75	75	6	
Sanitary Accommodation—				
Insufficient	2	2		
Unsuitable	3	3		
	130	130	6	

Nature of Work	Outworkers' Lists. Section 107										Outworkers' Lists. Section 107			Outwork in Un-wholesome Premises Section 108			Outwork in Infected Premises Sections 109 and 110															
	Lists received from Employers					Once in year					Prosecutions		Failing to keep or permit inspection of Lists		Failing to send Lists		Number of inspections of Outworkers' Premises		Instances		Notices served		Prosecutions		Orders made (Section 110)		Prosecutions (Sections 109 and 110)					
	Twice in year		Outworkers		Lists	Lists		Contractors		Workmen	Number of Outworkers' Addresses received from other Councils		Number of Addresses of Outworkers forwarded to other Councils		Notices served on Occupiers as to keeping or sending Lists		Failing to keep or permit inspection of Lists		Failing to send Lists		Number of inspections of Outworkers' Premises		Instances		Notices served		Prosecutions		Orders made (Section 110)		Prosecutions (Sections 109 and 110)	
	Contractors	Workmen	Contractors	Workmen		5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19												
	Lists																															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19														
Wearing Apparel—																																
(1) Making, &c. ..	104	35	763	5	2	24	957	526	126	...	...	688	...	...	...	5															
(2) Cleaning & Washing	2	...	4																													
Lace, Lace Curtains and																																
Nets																																
Furniture & Upholstery																																
Fur Pulling																																
Umbrellas, &c.																																
Paper Bags and Boxes .	2	...	31																													
Brush Making	2	...	34																													
Stuffed Toys																																
Tennis Balls	2	...	46																													
Tile Making																																
Electro Plate																																
Cables and Chains ...																																
Anchors and Grapnels...																																
Cart Gear																																
Locks, Latches and Keys																																
Totals	112	35	878	5	2	24	957	526	126			688																				

4.—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

Workshops on Register at the end of the Year ...	543
--	-----

5.—OTHER MATTERS.

Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories :—

Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Acts ...	6
---	---

Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector as
remediable under the Public Health Acts but not under the
Factory and Workshop Acts :—

Notified by H.M. Inspector ...	5
Report of action taken sent to H.M. Inspector ...	5
Underground Bakehouses ...	—
Certificates granted during the year ...	—
In use at end of year ...	—

Nuisances and other Offences dealt with in connection with Factories, Workshops, and Homeworkers' Premises.

Number of Homeworkers' Premises inspected during the year 688

Number of Notices served ... 56

	Factories and Workshops	Home- workers' Premises
Dirty yards ...	5	7
Dirty walls and ceilings ...	24	38
Dirty floors ...	13	7
Dirty water closets ...	5	4
Defective guttering and stack pipes ...	11	12
„ flush tanks ...	12	6
„ roofs ...	10	27
„ paving ...	5	8
„ flooring... ...	3	10
„ water fittings ...	3	17
„ water closets ...	3	2
„ sink wastes ...	2	7
„ sash lines and window frames ...	6	22
„ plaster ...	2	20
„ coppers ...	1	7
„ doors ...	2	6
Damp walls ...	—	2
Overcrowded workrooms... ...	2	—
Want of drainage of floors ...	1	—
Insufficient water closet accommodation ...	2	—
Unsuitable water closet accommodation ...	2	—
No dust receptacle provided ...	10	20
No Abstract exhibited ...	6	—
	<u>150</u>	<u>222</u>

Number of Homeworkers
notified to West Ham from other
Districts

From

City of London	...	...	380
Poplar	...	...	201
Stepney	...	...	70
Finsbury	...	...	50
Shoreditch	...	...	44
East Ham	...	...	37
Leyton	...	...	33
Bethnal Green	...	...	28
Kensington	...	...	26
Marylebone	...	...	21
Hackney	...	...	20
Westminster	...	...	15
Bermondsey	...	...	7
Southwark	...	...	6
Islington	...	...	5
Ilford	...	...	4
Walthamstow	...	...	3
Woolwich	...	...	2
Camberwell	...	...	2
Lambeth	...	...	2
Deptford	...	...	1

957

Number of Homeworkers for
West Ham Firms notified to
other Districts

To

East Ham	...	...	160
Leyton	...	...	144
Stepney	...	...	132
Poplar	...	...	23
Bethnal Green	...	...	13
Walthamstow	...	...	10
Ilford	...	...	10
Hackney	...	...	5
Tottenham	...	...	4
Barking	...	...	4
Woodford	...	...	3
Shoreditch	...	...	3
Islington	...	...	2
Southwark	...	...	2
Barking	...	...	2
Lambeth	...	...	2
Woolwich	...	...	2
Hornsey	...	...	1
Southend	...	...	1
Epping	...	...	1
Camberwell	...	...	1
Edmonton	...	...	1

526

**Particulars relating to the Treatment of Patients at the
Tuberculosis Dispensary during 1918.**

I.—Number of new patients examined—

Insured	193
Uninsured	499
	———— 692

II.—Number of patients treated—

Insured	12
Uninsured	110
	———— 122

III.—Number of patients under treatment at end of year—

Insured	10
Uninsured	126
	———— 136

IV.—Number of patients under observation at end of year—

Insured	1
Uninsured	30
	———— 31

Total attendances at Dispensary during the year ... 3,013

Total Home Visits 1,908

**Return of Cases in Plaistow Hospital and Dagenham
Sanatorium during 1918.**

PLAISTOW HOSPITAL—

Patients in Hospital 29th December, 1917 ... 158

Admitted since—

Scarlet Fever	213
Diphtheria	464
Typhoid Fever	26
Measles	5
Chicken Pox	1
Influenza	5
Enteritis... ..	1
Tetanus	1
Erysipelas	1
Mumps	1
Staff Cases	71
	———— 789

Return of Cases—continued.

Discharged—

Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	260
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	397
Typhoid Fever	...	...	...	...	...	24
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	8
Chicken Pox	...	...	...	...	...	1
Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	4
Enteritis	...	...	...	...	...	1
Tetanus	...	...	...	...	...	1
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	1
Mumps	...	...	...	...	...	1
Staff Cases	...	...	...	...	...	68
						<hr/> 766

Died—

Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	4
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	70
Acute Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	1
Staff	...	...	...	...	...	2
						<hr/> 77

Remaining in—

Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	19
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	62
Typhoid Fever	...	...	...	...	...	3
Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	3
Mixed Cases	...	...	...	...	...	12
Staff Cases	...	...	...	...	...	5
						<hr/> 104

DAGENHAM SANATORIUM—

Patients in Sanatorium 29th December, 1917	...	...	...	...	...	52
Admitted since	...	...	...	...	...	195
Discharged	...	...	...	...	...	189
Died	...	...	...	...	...	20
Remaining in at end of year	...	...	...	...	...	38

Summary of Work of Inspectors of Nuisances during 1918.

Number of complaints received and investigated	...	...	3,165
Dwelling-houses (house-to-house) inspected	...	...	7,152
Newly-infected houses	...	...	5,537
Common lodging-houses	...	...	55
Slaughter-houses	...	...	681
Bakehouses	...	...	219
Dairies	...	...	78
Cowsheds	...	...	62
School	...	...	1
Milkshops	...	...	109
Retail Shops	...	...	1,873
Offensive Trades	...	...	408
Factories	...	...	413
Workshops	...	...	76
Laundries	...	...	2
Miscellaneous	...	...	7,687
Re-inspections	...	...	28,488
Number of Notices served	{ On Offenders		4
	{ „ Owners		4,156
	{ „ Occupiers		94
Number of Notices complied with	{ By Offenders		14
	{ „ Owners		3,522
	{ „ Occupiers		39
Total Nuisances found	...	...	16,314
„ „ abated	...	...	13,214

Samples taken (Sale of Food and Drug Acts)—

Milk	761	Bun Flour	2
Lard	16	Semolia Flour	4
Margarine	5	Black Treacle	2
Jam	8	Sypgar	1
Cooking Fat	1	Sponge Mixture	1
Coffee	51	Pudding Powder	2
Cocoa	59	Nooeg	1
Oatmeal	4	Custard Powder	1
Milk Powder	5	Oatmeal Stout	1
Glaxo	1	Cream Cheese	1
Cocoa Butter	2	Keenegg	1
Turban Pudding	1	Chicken Soup	1
Syrup	2	Cheese	4
Flour	4	Sauce	1
Bread	1	Baked Beans	2
Condensed Milk	25	Salt	1
Baking Powder	10	Epsom Salts	1
Celeseo	1	Country Eggs	2
Viota	2	Pea Flour	1
Flake Tapioca	1	Jelly	1
Pepper	10	Caradill... ..	1
Dripping	12	Ginger Bun	1
Mustard	6	Chocolate	9
Evaporated Milk	4	Nut Chocolate	2
Mince Cake	1	Nougât... ..	1
Ground Ginger	17	Maize Semolina	1
Wheat Semolina	2	Semolina	1
Cake Flour	14	Glencake	2
Self-raising Flour	17	Dried Egg Yolk	1
Butter	45	Egg Substitute... ..	1
Malt Vinegar	2	Scotch Broth	1
Total		... ..	1,142

Summonses attended :—

Sale of Food and Drug Acts	...	...	...	...	...	52
Public Health Acts	...	...	...	...	...	45
Shops Act	...	...	...	...	...	6

Unsound Food Condemned :—

400 lbs. Barrelled Beef.	10 boxes Herring Roes.
50 stone Salted Beef.	2 Crabs.
16 tons, 10 cwt., 107½ lbs., lbs., 1½ hindquarters, and 2 pieces of Beef.	16 bags of Carrots.
1 box of Roes and Chitterlings	2 Loaves.
5 barrels, 3 cwt., 1 band and 4 Herrings.	21 boxes and 7 lbs. Kippers.
½ bushel Peanuts.	2 lbs. Corned Beef.
390 Eggs.	14½ lbs. Tripe.
772 Hams.	8 dishes Salmon and Shrimp Paste.
1 Carcase and Organs of a Beast.	3 lbs., 1 shoulder, and 1 leg of Mutton.
1 Carcase and Organs of a Boar.	1 case of Haddocks.
1 Carcase and Organs of a Sheep.	108 lbs. Butter.
3 boxes of Fresh Herrings.	16 lbs. Liver.
10 lbs. Salt Herrings.	226 lbs. Cheese.
1 Sheep's Pluck.	4 trunks and 3 cases Mackerel.
5 Pigs' Pluck.	1 case of Dog Fish.
7 lbs. Meat Pieces.	5 stone Rock Salmon.
2 lbs. Salt Pork.	¾ lb. Sausages.
124 lbs. Assorted Jellies.	4 lbs. Conger Eel.
1 bag of Winkles.	1 stone Lamb.
179 lbs. and 2 pieces of Ham.	1 Lamb's Heart and Liver.
6 boxes and 600 lbs. Skate.	100 lbs. Ling.
899 lbs., 23 sides, and 3 pieces of Bacon.	10 lbs. Cake.
176 lbs. Pork.	13 lbs. Tomatoes.
9 cases, 155 lbs., and 169 Rabbits.	12 lbs. Rice.
139 tins Condensed Milk.	1 Pig's Liver.
5 Whittings.	2 trucks King Edward Potatoes.
	2 dozen Chickens.
	19 cwt. Pigs' Heads.

**Nuisances, for the Abatement of which 4,587 Notices
were served during the year 1918.**

Drains and Soil Pipes—		Water Supply provided ...	54
Cleansed... ..	243		
Repaired... ..	431	Yard Paving—	
		Repaired... ..	300
W.C. Pans or Traps —		New provided	2
Cleansed... ..	59		
Repaired... ..	121	Defects remedied in—	
New provided	65	Roofs	2,167
		Floors	550
Surface Gullies—		Staircases	168
Cleansed... ..	37	Windows	453
Repaired... ..	126	Doors	254
New provided	2	Fireplaces	310
		Walls and Ceilings	2,483
Sinks and Sink-Pipes—			
Cleansed... ..	30	Ditches, Urinals, &c.—	
Repaired... ..	297	Cleansed... ..	8
New provided	19		
		Animals improperly kept ...	19
Stack-Pipes and Rain-Water		Offensive accumulations ...	100
Gutters—		Overcrowding	33
Cleansed... ..	100	Smoke Nuisances	25
Repaired... ..	1,332	Dust Receptacles provided	713
New provided	21	Rooms disinfected ..	2,190
		Other Nuisances	187
Water Fittings and Cisterns—			
Cleansed... ..	24	Total	14,127
Repaired... ..	505		
New provided	5		
Flushing Apparatus—			
Repaired... ..	573		
New provided	121		

Prosecutions during 1918.

Nuisances (Public Health Act)—36 Summonses.

Total Fines, £9 11s. 6d. ; Costs, £5 18s. 6d.

Summonses withdrawn, 20.

Failure to comply with Magistrate's Orders—1 Summons.

Fine, £4 ; Costs, 8s.

Adulterated Milk (Food and Drugs Acts)—46 Summonses.

Total Fines, £192 11s. ; Costs, £25 4s. 6d.

Summonses Dismissed, 14

Costs Incurred, £5 6s.

1 Case bound over in the sum of £5 and Costs.

Adulterated Condensed Milk—6 Summonses.

Total Fines, £81 9s. ; Costs, £4 5s. 6d.

1 Summons Dismissed.

Adulterated Milk Powder—2 Summonses.

Total Fines, £19 2s. ; Costs, 18s.

Adulterated Lard—1 Summons.

Fine, £2, including 11s. 6d. costs.

Unlabelled Margarine—1 Summons.

Dismissed on payment of 14s. 6d. costs

Unsound Bread—1 Summons.

Dismissed. Costs Incurred, 4s.

Obstructions—4 Summonses.

Total Fines, £23 18s. ; Costs, £1 16s. 6d.

West Ham Grocers, &c., Half-holiday Order—2 Summonses.

Total Fines, £1 12s. ; Costs, 8s.

West Ham Drapers, &c., Half-holiday Order—6 Summonses.

Total Fines, £3 16s ; Costs, £1 4s.

Shops Act—Employment of a Young Person for more than 74 hours in one week—1 Summons.

Fine, £1, including 4s. costs.

Stratford Mortuary.

SUMMARY 1918.

Month.	No bodies received.	Under 5 years.	Over 5 years.	Sent in by Coroner.	Sent in by Police.	Sent in on sanitary grounds.	No. of P.M.'s.	No. of Inquests held.	Number of days remaining in Mortuary.
January ...	33	12	21	30	2	1	23	32	120—1 day
February ...	35	16	19	34	1	—	26	35	140—2 days
March ...	27	13	14	27	—	—	18	27	23—3 „
April ...	20	8	12	19	1	—	16	20	1—5 „
May ...	18	3	15	14	4	—	9	18	
June ...	21	8	13	20	1	—	18	21	
July ...	17	2	15	16	—	1	11	16	
August ...	19	6	13	16	3	—	16	19	
September...	16	5	11	16	—	—	8	16	
October ...	24	5	19	24	—	—	18	24	
November ..	32	9	23	30	1	1	27	31	
December...	22	5	17	20	2	—	19	22	
Totals ...	284	92	192	266	15	3	209	281	

West Ham Mortuary was not used during 1918.

Canning Town Mortuary.

SUMMARY 1918.

Month.	No. bodies received.	Under 5 years.	Over 5 years.	Sent in by Coroner.	Sent in by Police.	Sent in on sanitary grounds.	No. of P.M.'s.	No. of Inquests held.	Number of days remaining in Mortuary.
January ...	3	—	3	—	1	2	1	1	41— 2 days
February ...	3	—	3	—	3	—	1	3	5— 3 „
March ...	4	1	3	—	3	1	—	3	5— 4 „
April ...	7	1	6	—	7	—	4	7	2— 5 „
May ...	2	—	2	—	2	—	1	2	2— 6 „
June ...	3	—	3	—	3	—	2	3	4— 7 „
July ...	8	—	8	—	3	5	2	3	2— 8 } 6— 9 } „
August ...	7	—	7	—	6	1	2	6	2—10 „
September...	3	—	3	—	2	1	1	2	1—12 } 2—13 } „
October ...	4	1	3	—	1	3	—	1	1—14 „
November .	30	—	30	—	4	26	2	4	1—17 „
December...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Totals ..	74	3	71	—	35	39	16	35	

Particulars relating to Measles during 1918.

Total notifications received	...	...	...	...	...	3,442
Notified by Medical Practitioners	...	...	...	...	...	3,350
Notified only by Parents or Guardians	...	...	...	...	...	92
Reported by School Attendance Officers	...	...	...	...	...	307
Number of households invaded...	...	...	...	...	...	3,818
Number of households in which the notified case was associated with other cases	...	...	...	...	...	241
Number of households with single cases only...	...	...	...	...	...	3,577